

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/606,916

Examiner

William K. Cheung

Applicant(s)

MARX ET AL.

Art Unit

1713

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06 June 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 042705
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### **Request for Continued Examination**

1. The request filed on April 27, 2005 for a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 10/606,916 is acceptable and a RCE has been established. An action on the RCE follows.
2. The examiner acknowledges the receipt of IDS filed April 27, 2005, and has considered the references in the IDS for the instant application.

### ***Allowances***

3. Claims 1-10 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As of the date of this office action, the examiner has not located or identified any reference that can be used singularly or in combination with another reference including the closest prior art of Rabitz et al. (US 6,153,149) to render the present invention anticipated or obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

*The invention of claims 1-10 relates to a **device for providing a reactant to a reaction zone in a plug flow reactor**, the device comprising:*

*a **feedblock configured to substantially encircle the reaction zone**;*

*an **inlet port providing entry of the reactant into the feedblock**;*

*a **manifold disposed within the feedblock and in fluid connection with the inlet port**; and*

*a **plurality of reactant feed ports disposed in the feedblock for delivering reactant to the reaction and fluidly connected with the manifold such that the reactant is delivered to the reactant feed ports**.*

The closest prior art Rabitz et al. (abstract; Figures 1, 2, 4, 5) disclose a device for providing reactant to a reaction in a flow reactor comprising a feedblock, an inlet port, a manifold, and plurality of reactant feed ports. However, Rabitz et al. are silent on a device comprising a manifold disposed within the feedblock and in fluid connection with the inlet ports. Therefore, the device of Rabitz et al. and the claimed device are different and it would not be apparent to one of ordinary skill in art to use the device teachings in Rabitz et al. to obtain the invention of claims 1-10. Claims 1-10 are allowed.

In light of the above discussion, it is evident as to why the present claims are patentable over the prior art.

Art Unit: 1713

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, and to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### **Conclusion**

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William K Cheung whose telephone number is (571) 272-1097. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00AM to 2:00PM; 4:00PM to 8:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David WU can be reached on (571) 272-1114. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

Application/Control Number: 10/606,916

Page 5

Art Unit: 1713

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



William K. Cheung

Patent Examiner

June 17, 2005

**WILLIAM K. CHEUNG  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**